

Attorney Docket No.: 00P9128US

SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as set forth below:

At page 4, the paragraph beginning at line 7 through 17:

In the implementation of FIG. 2, the system 10 uses an ISM (~~Industrial, Scientific, Medical~~) band of radio frequencies for supporting communication between base station 12 and handsets 14 and 16. For example, the system 10 can use the ISM band extending from 2.4 GHz to 2.4835 GHz. An advantage of using the ISM band is that it is unlicensed and does not require a license fee for use. However, in order to operate within FCC or other government regulations, the system 10 implements a frequency hopping scheme. This allows the system 10 to support robust cordless communications in the ISM band while operating within regulation guidelines. Under the frequency hopping scheme, base station 12 and handsets 14 and 16 move in the time domain from frequency to frequency.

At page 6, the paragraphs beginning at line 23 through the end of the paragraph at page 7, line 2:

The frequency selection module 506 may operate according to any frequency hopping scheme, and receives inputs from the slot monitor module 508, as will be described in greater detail below. More particularly, the slot monitor module 508 monitors transmissions and, using the counter 510, counts the number of active slots being sent per frame. This can include simply counting the number of active connections, or methods employing CRC checksum for each burst, bit error rate, or signal strength.

The slot monitor module 508 then informs the frequency selection module of the number of active slots. The duration of these slots is then used by the frequency selection module 506 in its calculation of the amount of time available during a particular 30 second period that a given carrier frequency can be used.

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At page 7, the paragraph beginning at line 28 through page 8, line 14:

FIG. 6 is a flowchart of one implementation of a method according to the present invention. The method can be implemented, for example, by the system 502 and 504 of FIG. 5. In a step 602, the system operates using a frequency hopping scheme, for example, implemented by the frequency selection module 506 of the base station and the frequency selection module 506a of the handset 16. As discussed above, the frequency is changed every 10 milliseconds, or every frame, and no one frequency can be used for more than 400 milliseconds every 30 seconds. In a step 604, the slot ~~monitors~~ monitor modules monitor each transmit and receive slot in each frame, i.e., at each frequency. In a step 606, signaling indicative of this information is provided to the frequency selection module 506. For example, the data provided may be the number of inactive slots, or the actual time of the inactive (or active) slots, associated with the particular frame and hence frequency, or the amount of time still available in a given 30 second period that the corresponding frequency may be used. The base station may also transmit this information to the handset. In a step 608, the frequency selection modules 506 and ~~[[504]] 506a~~ incorporate this information into their frequency hopping algorithm calculation. For example, this may include an exchange of control data between handset and base station.